

St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish

September 1, 2019

Twenty-Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time



**If you are new to St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish or just visiting — WELCOME!
Visitors, please sign the Guest Book found near the main entrance to the church.
If you would like to register in the parish, please call or email the parish office.
Welcome to the neighborhood and parish community!**

PARISH

3949 Wilmington Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63116
314 481-1133
314 481-6036 fax
stephenprossp@gmail.com
www.saintstephenstl.org

Chapel of Sts. Mary and Joseph

6304 Minnesota
St. Louis, MO 63111

SCHOOL

3929 Wilmington Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63116
314-752-4700
314 752-5165 fax
michelwendellssp@gmail.com

Father Ron Hopmeir, Pastor
fron@saintstephenstl.org

Mrs. Mary Regan, Pastoral Associate
maryreganssp@gmail.com

Mr. Stephen Jones, Music Director
stephenjonesssp@gmail.com

Mrs. June Tessin, Office Manager / Bookkeeper
junetessinssp@gmail.com

Mrs. Michel Wendell, Principal
michelwendellssp@gmail.com

Mrs. Mary Paule, Child Safety Coordinator, Secretary
marypaulessp@gmail.com

Ms. Stephanie Oehler Wobbe, Communications Coordinator
stephaniewobbessp@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP: SHARING TIME, TALENT, TREASURE, and PRAYER

“Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you.” (Luke 14:13-14)

We have a difficult time with the concept of giving without expecting something in return. Even when we give to charity we often want something in return – a raffle ticket, a dinner, a chance to play golf, or our name in print. Yet, as Christian stewards, we need to remember that the true reward for our giving awaits us in heaven.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

August 25 Contribution	\$ 2,554.00
Online giving contribution	\$ 1,451.00
Total weekly contribution	\$ 4,005.00
R & I	\$ 40.00
Tuition Assistance	\$ 35.00

Special collection in September is for Catholic University.

PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN WORKSHOP

CHANGE IN DATE: All volunteers, employees, religious, priests, and deacons working in our schools, parishes, and agencies of the Archdiocese of St. Louis are



required to attend the Safe Environment Program "Protecting God's Children." If you have not already completed this program, SSP is conveniently hosting our own Protecting God's Children training on Thursday, **Sept. 26, 2019**, at 7 p.m. **This date is different from what was advertised in last week's bulletin.**

Please RSVP to our PGC coordinator **Mary Paule** at 314-481-1133 or marypaulesssp@gmail.com. If you need to complete the training but cannot make this particular session, please visit www.archstl.org/child-and-youth-protection/safe-environment-program/protecting-gods-children for a list of upcoming sessions at other times and places.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

LECTORS

Saturday, September 7

4:00 p.m. — A. Borgmeyer, C. Deeken

Sunday, September 8

8:00 a.m. — L. Driscoll, S. Gaydos

10:30 a.m. — B. Dowd, C. Grindel

SERVERS

Saturday, September 7

4:00 p.m. — Ben W., Connor H.

Sunday, September 8

8:00 a.m. — Aidan J., Hendrix F.

10:30 a.m. — Dayana N., Meggie G.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1 & 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13; Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday, St. Gregory the Great: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: Col 1:1-8; Ps 52:10, 11; Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11

Friday: Col 1:15-20; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6 & 8; Lk 6:1-5

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time: Wis 9:13-18b; Ps 90:4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 & 17; Phmn 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

Monday September 2	Tuesday September 3	Wednesday September 4	Thursday September 5	Friday September 6	Saturday September 7	Sunday September 8
Mass 9 a.m. OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY	Mass 8 a.m. St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 7 p.m.	Mass 8 a.m. Confirmation Meeting 6:30 p.m. 8th Gr. Parent Mtg. 7:30 p.m.	Mass 8 a.m.	Mass 8 a.m. Adoration 9 a.m. SGSM Exercise 9:15 a.m.	Mass 8 a.m. Mass 4 p.m. Anniversary Dinner 5 p.m.	Mass 8 & 10:30 a.m.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Following the example of our patron St. Stephen, we are called to be witnesses of God's love and to be a faith-filled, reconciling parish.

SPOTLIGHT ON ... EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

While we do think they are pretty special, **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** are referred to as "extraordinary" because they assist the presider — the "ordinary" minister of the sacrament — in distributing the Body and Blood of Christ at Mass so that it may be distributed in a reverent and orderly manner. (Some ministers may also bring the Eucharist to homebound parishioners.)



"I view the role of the Eucharistic Minister as helping the community in the Mass as a lay person," says **Andy Sciaroni**, a minister of more than 20 years. "All of us play a role — from servers, music ministers, ushers and the congregation — in celebrating the holy Mass. I also appreciate the opportunity to administer communion to family members who are sick and unable to receive at church."

"I agree with the idea of this being an expression of the parish as a 'community of faith' coming together to celebrate, each of us having a role to play," says **Chad Wilcox**, a minister of five years. "Being a minister is a joyful experience."

"Even the apostles served the fishes and loaves to the community that gathered to hear Jesus," says **Sue Hogenmiller**, minister of more than 30 years. "My young children saw that witness of serving others when they were in grade school. My older daughter then served as a minister herself when she was in college."

Ministers here at SSP indicate their preferred Mass time and are scheduled in biweekly "shifts" as a group.

We are currently in need of more ministers, particularly at our 4 p.m. and 8 a.m. weekend Masses. If you are interested in more information about participating in this ministry, please contact **Mary Regan** at 314-481-1133 or maryreganssp@gmail.com.

Merciful Father, creator and guide of your family, bless our brothers and sisters. May they faithfully give the bread of life to your people. Strengthened by this sacrament, may they come at last to the banquet of heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

(From the Rite of Commissioning Special Ministers of the Eucharist, *Immensae Caritatis*)

NEW TO THE PARISH FAMILY

Please extend a warm welcome to the newest members of our parish family:

Scott and Kimberly (Koziacki) Armstrong
and their daughters **Liv and Lyric**

Richard and Colleen (Bauer) Nigro
and their sons **Sebastian, August, and Michael**

MASS SCHEDULE FOLLOW-UP SURVEY

In April, we announced our plan to change to a summer Sunday mass schedule to adjust for decreased attendance during those months due mostly to vacations and travel. Taking into consideration your responses to a short survey, the Liturgy Preparation Committee decided to set the single Sunday Mass time at 9:30 a.m.

Now that we have returned to our usual Mass times, the committee invites you to complete the survey below and return it to the parish office or in the collection basket. If you prefer, you can complete the survey online at <http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07egk90r4pjzvgncy0/start>. Thank you!

Which **regularly-scheduled** weekend Mass do you attend most often?

- 4:00 p.m., Saturdays
 8:00 a.m., Sundays
 10:30 a.m., Sundays

Which **summer-schedule** weekend Mass did you choose to attend?

- 4:00 p.m., Saturdays
 9:30 a.m., Sundays
 I chose to go to Mass elsewhere.

You are welcome to share any thoughts or comments:

TAKING THE “LOWEST PLACE”

On a morning you're running late (of course!), a construction detail is forcing two lanes of downtown traffic into one. The demolition derby is underway; cars are battling to squeeze into the one open lane. Compounding the confusion are those drivers who believe their schedules are so much more important, who honk and scream their way ahead of everyone else. Such commutes should make us pause and realize the patience and humility of the “lowest place.”

Or you're trying to get two hours' worth of errands done in 30 minutes. You're making good time until you hit a line at one store. The sales associate is young — and new. She's struggling to help one customer who has an endless stream of questions. She doesn't know the stock well enough to answer them, so she has to constantly consult the manager. Meanwhile, the line grows longer and your patience grows shorter. Every customer's order is a struggle for the poor kid. By the time it's your turn, you're barely civil to her. You need to calm down and take the “lowest place.”

You love having people over for dinner. But you've made it clear: it's your kitchen. Everyone's welcome to gather and enjoy a glass of wine — but PLEASE DON'T HELP! Your guests appreciate your hospitality — but chances are they would enjoy the evening even more if there was more of you. So perhaps you might take your foot off the gas and welcome their contributions to the feast; let them help with the clean-up. Cede control for the sake of the “lowest place.”

The “lowest place” Jesus speaks of in today's Gospel is more a matter of attitude than location, a question of generosity rather than place setting. Jesus asks us to see one another from the perspective of Christ-like humility that realizes that we are not the center of all things but part of a much larger world and to embrace a spirit of Gospel-centered gratitude for all the blessings we have received, not because of anything we have done to deserve them, but only because of the complete and unconditional love of God for us.

Connections, September 2019

NEIGHBORHOOD SALE — JOIN THE FUN!

There is a **neighborhood yard sale** planned for Saturday, **Sept. 21, 2019**, from 8 a.m. to noon. **If you are interested in participating**, please contact **Amy Koeln** at HHSales2019@hotmail.com.

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

In the charity of your prayers, please remember the grandmother of **Tara Ohler-Jenney**; the mother of **Tom Roth**; and the brother of **Helen Pond**, who died last week.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



OUR NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS

Please pray for our new training class of **Stephen Ministers** as they begin their formation — **Sandy & Gene Berviller**, **Katie Kummer**, **Lee Randall**, and **Carol Prag** from SSP; **Paul Clark** from Immaculate Heart of Mary; **Luz Giraldo-Llanos** from St. Cecilia; **Vicki McGowan** from St. John the Baptist; and **Jim Klenke**.



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

O God, we ask you to be with our Stephen Leaders as they prepare and teach caregiving topics each week. Be with our trainees as they read, learn, and discuss new concepts and practice new skills. Give them dedicated hearts and open minds. Bless the community they are forming so that they learn to care for, nurture, and support one another in ministry. Be with these servants now and throughout their ministry. Amen.

QUILT RAFFLE WINNER

And the winner of the quilt drawing for August is **Tammy Koles!** Chances are still available for the three remaining drawings in October, December, and February. You can purchase them at the rectory office — one for \$1 or six for \$5. Good luck!



PLANNING A PURGE?

The **St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store Truck** will be stationed in our Livingston Lot on Saturday, **Oct. 5** (noon to 4 p.m.) or Sunday, **Oct. 6** (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

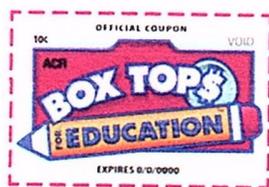
Items will be either resold or recycled at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store on Kingshighway (next to Burlington Coat Factory). If you have very large furniture items or large appliances, call the Thrift Store (314-881-6006) for pickup at a later date.

Questions? Call **Jim Prag** at 314-504-8216.



CHANGES TO OUR BOX TOPS PROGRAM

For many years, our school has participated in and benefitted from the **Box Tops for Education** program. Last year we received about \$770 from our collection. To encourage participation, our classrooms have traditionally competed to see who could bring in the most Box Tops. The winning classroom is rewarded with a special treat.



The Box Tops program is transitioning to a digital-only process. Participating brands are starting to change their packaging from a traditional Box Tops “clip” to the new Box Tops “label.” If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Visit www.btfec.com for more information.

The traditional Box Tops clips may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip and send them to school, even if they are expired.

Since most of us still love a good competition, we are going to continue to give students credit for the Box Tops scanned through the app. Our SSP Box Tops coordinator **Felicia Spencer** does see all purchases submitted through the app, but the information does not include **who** submitted the item. If you are a school family, you can then fill out the tracking sheet — which you should have received through school — for your student to get credit in our contest. Felicia will use the tracking sheet to match our school’s report with the Box-Tops products’ purchasers.)

Please contact Felicia at sspboxtops@gmail.com with any questions about the SSP Box Tops program.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Sept. 21 — Mass in the Park
- Sept. 26 — Protecting God’s Children workshop
- Oct. 19 — PTO Trivia Night
- Oct. 26 — SSMJ Fall Festival
- Nov. 8 — PTO Holiday Boutique
- Nov. 22-24 — 8th grade play
- Dec. 7 — Breakfast With Santa
- Feb. 1 — Sports Trivia Night
- Feb. 8 — Auction Gala

CAN YOU PLAY CHECKERS OR CHESS?

Peter & Paul Community Services is looking



PETER & PAUL COMMUNITY SERVICES
Solving Homelessness Together

for volunteers to play checkers or chess with residents of the Biddle House homeless shelter (Tucker & Biddle) the Peter & Paul shelter (711 Allen), and Garfield Apartments (Jefferson & Wyoming). Contact **Ed Rataj** at 314-727-4827 or ratajfam@att.net to schedule a visit.

GRIEF SUPPORT AND DIVORCE SUPPORT

The Archdiocese is sponsoring new support groups for both divorce and grief at various parishes. For general information, contact Julie Bostick, 314-792-7180 or juliebostick@archstl.org.



Grief Support Groups

Incarinate Word (Chesterfield)

Deacon Ron Reuther, 636-675-1364 or deaconronreuther@yahoo.com
Tuesdays, Sept. 10-Oct. 15, at 7 p.m.

St. Charles Borromeo (St. Charles)

Marilyn Lucido, 636-946-2511
Thursdays, Sept. 5-Oct. 10, 7 p.m.
Thursdays, Oct. 24-Dec. 5, 7 p.m.
Thursdays, Jan. 9-Feb. 13, 7 p.m.
Thursdays, Feb. 27-April 2, 7 p.m.

St. Paul (St. Paul, Mo.)

Mary Hargadine, 314-378-3217 or maryahargadine@gmail.com
Tuesdays, beginning Sept. 10, 6 p.m.

Washington University

Mary Pat Henehan, mphenahan@gmail.com
Mondays, Sept. 23-Oct. 28, 3:30 p.m.

Surviving Divorce Support Groups

Ascension (Chesterfield)

Lucia Hill, 314-757-1869 or luciamhill@yahoo.com
Thursdays, Sept. 5-Nov. 21, 7 p.m.

Mary, Mother of the Church (Mattese)

Rob Telthorst, 314-320-0605
Thursdays, Sept. 5-Nov. 21, 7 p.m.

Seven Holy Founders (Affton)

Don Gayou, 314-406-3098 or donaldedwg@gmail.com
Thursdays, Sept. 5-Nov. 21, 7 p.m.

NAMING & COMMENDATION RITE

Incarnate Word Parish

(13416 Olive Blvd., Chesterfield, Mo.) is hosting a Naming & Commendation Rite on Saturday, **Sept. 7, 2019**, immediately following the 8:30 a.m. Mass.



Jointly developed by the Archdiocesan Office of Worship and the Respect Life Apostolate, Naming & Commendation is designed to meet the needs of parents whose child(ren) died before birth for any reason — miscarriage, stillbirth, accident, or abortion.

For more information about the event, contact **Cindy Reznikov** at 314-265-4315 or **Deacon Ron Reuther** at 636-675-1364. To learn more about the program, visit www.archstl.org/respect-life-apostolate/programs/pastoral-care.

YOUNG CATHOLIC MUSICIANS AUDITIONS

The choir and orchestra of **The Young Catholic Musicians** will hold auditions for singers during August and September in preparation for its 46th year of service to the church. These young people (aged 10-17) represent more than 40 parishes and schools in the St. Louis area. They learn quality liturgical music and lead the music for Mass once each month at different parishes.



Contact **Fr. Bruce Forman** at 314-231-7464 or revycm@charter.net to schedule an audition. For more information, visit www.archstl.org/musicians.

PART-TIME JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Missionaries of the Holy Family are looking for part-time help in their provincial office, located in the St. Wenceslaus Church rectory (3014 Oregon Ave.).



This is a paid position. Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel is required, along with clear and appealing handwriting skills. Must be a Catholic in good standing. Please send resume to msf@msf-america.org.

UPCOMING SSP 50+ CLUB ACTIVITIES

- Sept. 18** — Carpool trip to casino in Cape Girardeau. Cost is \$30, but you get \$10 back for lunch.
- Oct. 20** — Bingo at American Legion in Columbia, Ill. Cost is \$31. Meet at SSP at 10 a.m. or call for a ride.
- Nov. 5-7** — Bus trip to Branson, Mo. Cost is \$375 for a double room, \$425 for a single. Includes three shows and two dinners, plus bus fare.
- Dec. 8** — Bus trip to see Christmas lights in the area. Cost is \$55. Meet at St. John the Baptist at 5 p.m. Dinner at Dado's on Hampton is included.

Please call **Joyce Stockmann** at 314-752-4827 for more information about these events.

The next 50+ Club meeting is Thursday, **Sept. 19, 2019**, at 11 a.m. Hope to see you there!

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Join South Grand Senior Ministry as we cheer on the Cardinals on **Monday, Sept. 16, 2019**. We will depart from Immaculate Heart of Mary (4092 Blow St.) at 5 p.m. and return after the game. The cost for parishioners of SGSM parishes is \$25, which includes your ticket to the game and bus ride to and from the game. Others are welcome; the cost for others is \$30. To reserve your spot call **Heather** at 314-351-1318, x201.



ONGOING EVENTS

Game Day — First Thursday of every month, 1 p.m.-4 p.m., at the rectory meeting room at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish (4092 Blow St.). A variety of card and board games and refreshments are available. Contact Debbie at 314-481-9385 for details.



Chair Yoga — Non-stress yoga, Wednesdays, 8:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m. at the school building at Immaculate Heart of Mary. Cost is \$3 per person. Call Debbie at 314-481-9385 for more information.

Low-Impact Exercise — Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m., in the cafeteria at Immaculate Heart of Mary. A small fee is charged.

Balance Classes — Every Friday from 9 a.m.-10 a.m. in the St. Stephen Protomartyr parish hall.

September 1, 2019

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, September 2

9:00 a.m.— Linda Stewart

Tuesday, September 3

8:00 a.m.— Irvin Rufkahr

Wednesday, September 4

8:00 a.m.— Florence Arcipowski

Thursday, September 5

8:00 a.m.— Richard Meisemann

Friday, September 6

8:00 a.m.— Doris Guntli

Saturday, September 7

8:00 a.m.— Rosemary Kobylinski

4:00 p.m.— Our Parishioners

Sunday, September 8

8:00 a.m.— Martha Ohlms

10:30 a.m.— Linda Stewart, Jeanette Schoemehl

PLEASE PRAY

for our sick and recovering ...

Dave Asinger	Paul Heidbrier	Grace Phillips
Suzi Beck	Wence Kveton	Vince Stehlin
Liz Bentrup	Thomas Lorenz	Ron Thenhaus
Ann Dosenbach	Lois McClellan	Virginia Zenthoefler
Erin Goedeker	Steve Moylan	
Art & Jan Haffer	Doug Paule	

for our homebound ...

Jeanette Holmer	Art Petersen
Albertine Honious	Rose Schuster

for those in nursing homes ...

Al Eckert	Ellie Kearns	Dolores Meisemann
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for family members serving in the military ...

Derek Hirtz	Jack Renick	Mitch Sollmann
Tristan Moylan	Brian Schoellhorn	
Ryan O'Neil	Dylan Schulte	

DEVOTIONS

Tuesdays, after 8 a.m. Mass: Perpetual Help Devotions

Wednesdays, 8:45 a.m.-4 p.m.: Church is available for Eucharistic Adoration. Stop by the rectory for entry.

First Friday of the Month, after 8 a.m. Mass: Holy Hour and Benediction

SAINT  STEPHEN

Saint Stephen Protomartyr Parish

Parish Office Hours 314-481-1133

Monday through Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Closed Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays

Bulletin Article Deadline

Monday at 12:00 p.m. prior to the weekend bulletin.

Sacramental Celebrations

Eucharist

Saturday evening vigil:

4:00 p.m.

Sunday:

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m. (nursery available)

Monday: Liturgy of the Word

8:00 a.m.

Tuesday through Saturday: Mass

8:00 a.m.

Holy Day:

8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Infant and Child Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated at any weekend liturgy or on the last Sunday of the month following the 10:30 a.m.

Eucharist. Parents are asked to call the parish office to arrange a Baptism.

Adult Initiation / Reception into the Catholic Church

Any adult who would like to know more about our Catholic faith, and/or who is interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church, please call the parish office.

Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Marriage

Please contact one of the clergy at least six months prior to the planned date of marriage.

Anointing of the Sick

We have a communal celebration of this sacrament at the weekend liturgies in the fall and in the spring.

If you would like to be anointed before entering the hospital or if you are homebound, please call the parish office.

Parish School of Religion

Parish School of Religion formal classes in our Catholic Faith

Children: 4 yrs. through 8th grade and high school

Located on the campus of St. John the Baptist Parish.

Call the PSR Director at 314-773-3070.

Church Nursery

Located in the rectory basement during 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Enter by way of the alley. Staffed by parents.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children ages 4 through second grade are invited to participate and hear the scriptures in a way meaningful to their age. During our Sunday Mass at 10:30 a.m., excluding holidays.